



Samsonite to Replace *Tokyo Chic* Handles to Allay Consumer Concerns

HONG KONG, June 19, 2012 – Samsonite International S.A. today announced that it is temporarily removing its entire inventory of its *American Tourister* brand's *Tokyo Chic* luggage everywhere the product is sold, including Hong Kong, to replace the side-carrying handles with new generation handles. Additionally, any customers who already own *Tokyo Chic* luggage can contact Samsonite to have the side-carrying handles of this luggage replaced.

"Product quality and safety have always been Samsonite's primary focus. As soon as the Consumer Council in Hong Kong contacted us about the level of PAH in the side-carrying handles of our *Tokyo Chic* luggage, we sent random samples of the products in question to independent test laboratories in Germany and Hong Kong in order to assess the levels of PAH in the handles of these products. In the meantime, we temporarily removed our *Tokyo Chic* luggage from all points of sale in Hong Kong pending the independent test results and consultation with the Consumer Council," commented Ramesh Tainwala, President, Asia-Pacific & Middle East.

"Our independent test results found PAH levels that were significantly lower than those reported by the Consumer Council. Based on these independent test results, as well as on expert advice we have received, we are confident that consumers can continue to use *Tokyo Chic* or indeed any of our luggage products without any safety or health concerns whatsoever," continued Mr Tainwala.

"What matters to us above all else, is that consumers have the best possible experience with our products. We want our customers to enjoy their Samsonite luggage and to have the utmost of confidence in its functionality, design and safety. So despite our absolute conviction that the *Tokyo Chic* luggage is completely safe, we have today removed *Tokyo Chic* luggage from our stock everywhere it is sold in order to immediately replace the side-carrying handles with new generation handles. Any customer, wherever they are based, can also contact Samsonite to have the side-carrying handle of their *Tokyo Chic* suitcases replaced. Customers who would like the side-carrying handle replaced can visit any one of our stores globally and our retail sales staff would be happy to arrange this," concluded Mr Tainwala.

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